

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

105th Congress
2nd Session

Vote No. 108

April 29, 1998, 11:53 am
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NATO EXPANSION/Full Cooperation on MIAs

SUBJECT: Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic . . . Treaty Document 105-36. Smith (of New Hampshire)/Hutchison amendment No. 2314.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 97-0

SYNOPSIS: Treaty Document 105-36, the Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic, will give the Senate's advice and consent to admitting those countries as full members to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

The Smith (of New Hampshire)/Hutchison amendment would require the President, before depositing the United States instrument of ratification, to certify that each of the governments of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic were fully cooperating with United States efforts to obtain the fullest possible accounting of captured and missing United States personnel from past military conflicts or Cold War incidents, including: by facilitating full access to relevant archival material; by identifying individuals who might possess knowledge relative to captured and missing United States personnel; and by encouraging such individuals to speak with United States Government officials.

Those favoring the amendment contended:41 Tmi~75389 -1.179 TDi~()Tji~1.003 -1.179 TDi~-0.012 Tci~-01002 TwiPol; a, Husin

(See other side)

YEAS (97)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (3)	
Republican (54 or 100%)		Democrats (43 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (1)	Democrats (2)
Abraham	Hutchinson	Akaka	Inouye			Bond ⁻²	Moseley-Braun ^{-2AY}
Allard	Hutchison	Baucus	Johnson				Rockefeller ⁻²
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Biden	Kennedy				
Bennett	Jeffords	Bingaman	Kerrey				
Brownback	Kempthorne	Boxer	Kerry				
Burns	Kyl	Breaux	Kohl				
Campbell	Lott	Bryan	Landrieu				
Chafee	Lugar	Bumpers	Lautenberg				
Coats	Mack	Byrd	Leahy				
Cochran	McCain	Cleland	Levin				
Collins	McConnell	Conrad	Lieberman				
Coverdell	Murkowski	Daschle	Mikulski				
Craig	Nickles	Dodd	Moynihan				
D'Amato	Roberts	Dorgan	Murray				
DeWine	Roth	Durbin	Reed				
Domenici	Santorum	Feingold	Reid				
Enzi	Sessions	Feinstein	Robb				
Faircloth	Shelby	Ford	Sarbanes				
Frist	Smith, Bob	Glenn	Torricelli				
Gorton	Smith, Gordon	Graham	Wellstone				
Gramm	Snowe	Harkin	Wyden				
Grams	Specter	Hollings					
Grassley	Stevens						
Gregg	Thomas						
Hagel	Thompson						
Hatch	Thurmond						
Helms	Warner						

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

1—Official Business
2—Necessarily Absent
3—Illness
4—Other

SYMBOLS:

AY—Announced Yea
AN—Announced Nay
PY—Paired Yea
PN—Paired Nay

intelligence files of these newly democratic nations. Unfortunately, the new leaders of these countries have been cordial but have been somewhat stand-offish. They have said that they would like to help, but they are not sure that they can find the information. They have yet to give Americans access to their military intelligence files from the communist era. Therefore, we have offered the Smith/Hutchison amendment. This amendment would require the President to certify that these three countries were fully cooperating with United States efforts to find Americans missing from past military conflicts or Cold War incidents before he deposited the instrument of ratification. This amendment, in no uncertain terms, will make it clear to these three countries the importance the United States attaches to this issue. We urge our colleagues to vote in favor of this amendment.

While favoring the amendment, some Senators expressed the following reservations:

We of course favor the fullest possible accounting of Americans who are missing in action, and we add that we are certain that Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic are eager to help us as much as they can in that effort because they have a very keen appreciation for the need to achieve such a full accounting. Our colleagues need to keep in mind that these countries suffered for 50 years under communist rule. During that rule, thousands of their citizens "disappeared" without any explanation; they were imprisoned, murdered, or hauled off to Russian gulag prisons. Just as they want to find out what happened to their missing family members during communist rule, they want to help Americans find their MIAs. We support the Smith/Hutchison amendment, but in so doing we do not mean to imply that we think that without the amendment that Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic would be uncooperative.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.